

SIMETHICONE SOLID ORAL DOSAGE FORM

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention is directed to a free-flowing compressible composition containing simethicone and an adsorbent for forming a solid dosage form, such solid oral dosage forms and related processes.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] Active agents, e.g., pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, and the like, intended for oral administration are often provided in solid form as tablets, capsules, pills, lozenges, or granules. Oral dosage forms are swallowed whole, chewed in the mouth, disintegrated in the mouth and swallowed, or dissolved sublingually.

[0003] When administered orally, simethicone is used as an adjunct in the symptomatic treatment of flatulence, functional gastric bloating, and postoperative gas pains. The clinical use of simethicone is based on its antifoam properties. Silicone antifoams spread on the surface of aqueous liquids, forming a film of low surface tension and thus causing the collapse of foam bubbles. Thus, for self medication in over-the-counter preparations, simethicone is used as an antifatulent to relieve symptoms commonly referred to as gas, including upper GI bloating, pressure, fullness, or stuffed feeling. It is often combined with other gastrointestinal medications, such as antacids, antispasmodics or digestive enzymes and various simethicone formulations are previously disclosed.

[0004] Simethicone can be administered orally as a liquid preparation or as solid form for example capsules, chewable or swallowable tablets. The advantage of tablets over liquids is the ease of portability. The advantages of swallowable tablets over chewable tablets include the ease of ingestion and lack of taste. Coated tablets are preferred for swallowable tablets.

[0005] Historically, in preparing solid simethicone dosage forms, difficulties have been encountered when attempting to incorporate substantial quantities of the liquid simethicone in the solid final blend for tableting. The difficulty has been to achieve

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sufficient flowability for processing and sufficient cohesion for compaction, particularly for direct compression tableting, so that the tablet will withstand the rigors of further processing, e.g., film coating, gelatin dipping, printing, packaging and the like. Likewise, difficulties have been encountered in assuring that the viscous liquid simethicone is uniformly distributed throughout the solid formulation and expeditiously dispersed upon administration.

[0006] Japanese Patent No. SHO 39[1961]-46451 to Kitsusho Yakuhin Kogyo KK discloses a method for preparing simethicone tablets by mixing and granulating simethicone with aluminium silicate, magnesium aluminum metasilicate, and magnesium silicate. In particular, the formulation disclosed by the above Japanese patent requires at most 25 % simethicone and 75% or greater silicate, binder and dispersing agent. Binders were disclosed as being starch and lactose. Dispersing agent was disclosed as being carboxymethylcellulose. Further, the above Japanese patent discloses that when the amount of simethicone exceeds 25%, a portion of the simethicone can be carried away, therefore the tablet workability is not desirable.

[0007] JP 5097681 to Horii Yakuhin Kogyo KK discloses a preparation wherein simethicone is adsorbed to magnesium aluminate metasilicate and dextrin. Excipient was then added and the preparation was tableted. Following tableting a hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate coating was added, followed by applying additional simethicone and gelatin. The amount of simethicone in the final tablet was about 15%.

[0008] U.S. Patent No. 4,906,478 discloses a simethicone preparation including a powdered combine of particulate calcium silicate and simethicone. U.S. Patent No. 5,073,384 discloses simethicone preparations including combines of water soluble agglomerated maltodextrin and simethicone. U.S. Patent No. 5,458,886 discloses a free-flowing granular composition including titanium dioxide having specific particle size and surface area in combination with simethicone.

[0009] US Patent No. 6,103,260 describes the use of an admixture of simethicone and either one or both of granular anhydrous tribasic calcium phosphate or dibasic calcium, wherein the admixture in a uniform granular composition of not more than

1000 micron particle size, that is suitable for compression into a solid dosage form for oral administration. While the amount of simethicone in the final composition was disclosed as being 10% to 50%, the final tablet weight was in excess of 1000 mg.

5 [0010] What is needed, therefore, is a free-flowing compressible composition containing simethicone for forming a solid dosage, wherein either larger quantities of simethicone can be incorporated therein or smaller solid dosage forms containing the same amount of simethicone.

10 [0011] Surprisingly, it has been discovered that using silicified microcrystalline cellulose and magnesium aluminometasilicate as substrates onto which simethicone or other oil or liquid active is adsorbed provides such a composition. Thus, there is provided by the present invention a free-flowing compressible composition containing simethicone for forming a solid dosage form that contains either larger weight percentages of simethicone while maintaining substantially the same size than previously possible or the same weight percentage of simethicone in a smaller size. In addition, the present invention is directed to such solid oral dosage forms and related processes.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 [0012] The present invention provides a composition for forming a compressed solid dosage form that is a free-flowing compressible admixture of simethicone, an adsorbant, and an optional active agent, wherein the weight ratio of simethicone to adsorbent is at least 1:2.22. Also included are solid dosage forms made from a free-flowing compressible admixture of simethicone, an adsorbant, and an optional active agent, wherein the weight ratio of simethicone to adsorbent is at least 1:2.22.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

25 [0013] The term, "active agent" is used herein in a broad sense and encompasses any material that can be carried by or entrained in the system. For example, the

active agent can be a pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, vitamin, dietary supplement, nutrient, or the like and combinations thereof.

[0014] The active agents useful herein can be selected from classes from those in the following therapeutic categories: ace-inhibitors; alkaloids; antacids; analgesics; anabolic agents; anti-anginal drugs; anti-allergy agents; anti-arrhythmia agents; antiasthmatics; antibiotics; anticholesterolemics; anticonvulsants; anticoagulants; antidepressants; antidiarrheal preparations; anti-emetics; antihistamines; antihypertensives; anti-infectives; anti-inflammatory; antilipid agents; antimanics; anti-migraine agents; antinauseants; antipsychotics; antistroke agents; antithyroid preparations; anabolic drugs; antiobesity agents; antiparasitics; antipsychotics; antipyretics; antispasmodics; antithrombotics; antitumor agents; antitussives; antiulcer agents; anti-uricemia agents; anxiolytic agents; appetite stimulants; appetite suppressants; beta-blocking agents; bronchodilators; cardiovascular agents; cerebral dilators; chelating agents; cholecystokinin antagonists and agonists; chemotherapeutic agents; cognition activators; contraceptives; coronary dilators; cough suppressants; decongestants; deodorants; dermatological agents; diabetes agents; diuretics; emollients; enzymes; erythropoietic drugs; expectorants; fertility agents; fungicides; gastrointestinal agents; growth regulators; hormone replacement agents; hyperglycemic agents; hypoglycemic agents; ion-exchange resins; laxatives; migraine treatments; mineral supplements; mucolytics, narcotics; neuroleptics; neuromuscular drugs; non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs); nutritional additives; peripheral vasodilators; polypeptides; prostaglandins; psychotropics; renin inhibitors; respiratory stimulants; sedatives; steroids; stimulants; sympatholytics; thyroid preparations; tranquilizers; uterine relaxants; vaginal preparations; vasoconstrictors; vasodilators; vertigo agents; vitamins; wound healing agents; and others.

[0015] Active agents that may be used in the invention include, but are not limited to: acetaminophen; acetic acid; acetylsalicylic acid, including its buffered forms; acrivastine; albuterol and its sulfate; alcohol; alkaline phosphatase; allantoin; aloe; aluminum acetate, carbonate, chloral hydrate; alprazolam; amino acids;

iodine; ipecac; iron; isosorbide and its mono- and di- nitrates; isoxicam; ketamine;
 kaolin; ketoprofen; lactic acid; lactase; lanolin; lecithin; leuprolide acetate; lidocaine
 and its hydrochloride salt; lisinopril; liotrix; loperamide; loratadine; lovastatin;
 luteinizing hormone; LHRH (luteinizing hormone replacement hormone);
 5 magnesium carbonate, hydroxide, salicylate, and trisilicate; meclizine; mefenamic
 acid; meclofenamic acid; meclofenamate sodium; medroxyprogesterone acetate;
 methenamine mandelate; menthol; meperidine hydrochloride; metaproterenol
 sulfate; methscopolamine and its nitrates; methysergide and its maleate; methyl
 nicotinate; methyl salicylate; methyl cellulose; methsuximide; metoclopramide and
 10 its halides/hydrates; metronidazole; metoprol tartrate; miconazole nitrate; mineral
 oil; minoxidil; morphine; naproxen and its alkali metal sodium salts; nifedipine;
 neomycin sulfate; niacin; niacinamide; nicotine; nicotinamide; nimesulide;
 nitroglycerin; nonoxynol-9; norethindrone and its acetate; nystatin; octoxynol;
 octoxynol-9; octyl dimethyl PABA; octyl methoxycinnamate; olsalazine; omega-3
 15 polyunsaturated fatty acids; omeprazole; ondansetron and its hydrochloride; oxolinic
 acid; oxybenzone; oxtriphylline; para-aminobenzoic acid (PABA); padimate-O;
 paramethadione; pentostatin; peppermint oil; pentaerythritol tetranitrate;
 pentobarbital sodium; perphenazine; phenelzine sulfate; phenindamine and its
 tartrate; pheniramine maleate; phenobarbital; phenol; phenolphthalein;
 20 phenylephrine and its tannates and hydrochlorides; phenylpropanolamine;
 phenytoin; pirfenol; piroxicam and its salts; polydimethylsiloxanes; polymixin B
 sulfate; potassium chloride and nitrate; prazepam; procainamide hydrochloride;
 procatenol; promethazine and its hydrochloride; propoxyphene and its hydrochloride
 and napsylate; pramiracetam; pramoxine and its hydrochloride salt; prochlorperazine
 25 and its maleate; propranolol and its hydrochloride; promethazine and its
 hydrochloride; propranolol; pseudoephedrine and its sulfates and hydrochlorides;
 pyridoxine; pyrilamine and its hydrochlorides and tannates; quinapril; quinidine
 gluconate and sulfate; quinine; ranitidine; resorcinol; riboflavin; salicylic acid;
 scopolamine; sesame oil; shark liver oil; simethicone; sodium bicarbonate, citrate,
 30 and fluoride;; sucralfate; sulfamethoxazole; sulfasalazine; sulfur; sumatriptan and its

succinate; tacrine and its hydrochloride; theophylline; terfenadine; thiethylperazine and its maleate; timolol and its maleate; tioperidone; tramadol; trimetrexate; triazolam; tretinoin; tetracycline hydrochloride; tolmetin; tolnaftate; triclosan; trimethobenzamide and its hydrochloride; tripeleminamine and its hydrochloride; triprolidine hydrochloride; undecylenic acid; vancomycin; verapamil hydrochloride; vidarabine phosphate; vitamins and minerals; witch hazel; xylometazoline hydrochloride; zinc; zinc sulfate; zinc undecylenate. Active agents may further include, but are not limited to food acids; insoluble metal and mineral hydroxides, carbonates, oxides, polycarbophils, and salts thereof; adsorbates of active drugs on a magnesium trisilicate base and on a magnesium aluminum silicate base, and mixtures thereof. Mixtures and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of these and other actives can be used.

[0016] Examples of suitable active agents include stimulant laxatives, such as bisacodyl, cascara sagrada, danthron, senna, phenolphthalein, aloe, castor oil, ricinoleic acid, and dehydrocholic acid, and mixtures thereof; antisecretory; H₂ receptor antagonists, such as famotadine, which is commercially available from McNeil-PPC, Inc. under the PEPICID brand; proton pump inhibitors; gastrointestinal cytoprotectives, such as sucralfate and misoprostol; gastrointestinal prokinetics, such as Prucalopride, antibiotics for *H. pylori*, such as clarithromycin, amoxicillin, tetracycline, and metronidazole; antidiarrheals, such as diphenoxylate and loperamide, which is commercially available from McNeil-PPC, Inc. under the IMMODIUM brand; glycopyrrolate, such as Robinul; antiemetics, such as Ondansetron, analgesics, such as mesalamine, commercially available under the ASACOL brand, aspirin, and salicylic acid; and mixtures thereof.

[0017] In one embodiment, the additional active agent may be selected from bisacodyl, famotadine, prucalopride, diphenoxylate, loperamide, lactase, mesalamine, bismuth, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, isomers, and mixtures thereof.

[0018] In another embodiment, the additional active agent may be selected from acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, ketoprofen, cyclobenzaprine, meloxicam,

rofecoxib, celecoxib, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters, isomers, and mixtures thereof.

[0019] Examples of suitable polydimethylsiloxanes, which include, but are not limited to dimethicone and simethicone, are those disclosed in US Patent No. 4,906,478, US Patent No. 5,275,822, and US Patent No. 6,103,260, the contents of each is expressly incorporated herein by reference. As used herein, the term simethicone refers to the broader class of polydimethylsiloxanes, including simethicone and dimethicone.

[0020] Suitable lactase for use herein include, a lactase isolated from *Saccharomyces lactis*, by Gist-Brocade in Delft, Holland, and sold by Enzyme Development Corporation, New York, N.Y.; a lactase from *Aspergillus oryzae*, Lactase Y-400, produced by K. K. Yakult Honsha; a lactase from *Aspergillus oryzae*, Plexazym LA 1, produced by Roehm GmbH; a lactase from *Aspergillus oryzae*, produced by Shinnihon Kagaku Kogyo Co.; a lactase from *Kluyveromyces fragilis*, produced by Sturges Enzymes, Selby, North Yorkshire, England; a lactase from *Aspergillus oryzae*, Takamine lactase, produced by Miles Laboratories, Inc., Elkhart, IN.; a lactase from *Kluyveromyces fragilis* produced by Novo Enzymes, Bagsvaerd, Denmark, and a lactase from *Aspergillus oryzae*, e.g., Lactase F "Amano" 100, produced by Amano Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. Naka-ku, Nagoya, Japan. These suppliers and others offer, generally, lactase composition, including a diluent, having a potency of between 14,000 and 100,000 FCC lactase units/gram.

[0021] The active agent can be in the form of a fine powder, granule, or large crystal, and has an average particle size from about 1 μm to about 1000 μm , also from about 150 μm to about 500 μm . Typically, the active agent used in the present invention has an average size of greater than 50 μm .

[0022] If the active agent has an objectionable taste, it may be coated with a taste masking coating, as known in the art. Examples of suitable taste masking coatings are described in U.S. Patent No. 4,851,226, U.S. Patent No. 5,075,114, and U.S. Patent No. 5,489,436. Commercially available taste masked active agents may also be employed. For example, acetaminophen particles that are encapsulated with

ethylcellulose or other polymers by a coaccervation process may be used in the present invention. Coaccervation-encapsulated acetaminophen may be purchased commercially from Eurand America, Inc. Vandalia, Ohio, or from Circa Inc., Dayton, Ohio.

[0023] As used herein, all ranges provided are intended to expressly include at least all numbers that fall between the endpoints of ranges.

[0024] As used herein, simethicone conforms to the United States Pharmacopoeia (USP XXII) definition, that is a mixture of fully methylated linear siloxane polymers containing repeating units of polydimethylsiloxane stabilized with trimethylsiloxy end-blocking units, and silicon dioxide. Also, as used herein, dimethicone can be substituted for simethicone. Simethicone contains about 90.5-99% of polydimethylsiloxane and about 4-7% silicon dioxide. The polydimethylsiloxanes present in simethicone are practically inert polymers having a molecular weight of 14,000-21,000. The mixture is a gray, translucent, viscous fluid that is insoluble in water.

[0025] Conventional excipients useful in the present include fillers or dry binders, such as water soluble simple and complex carbohydrate (e.g., sucrose, glucose, fructose, maltose, lactose, maltodextrins, starch, modified starches, mannitol, sorbitol, maltitol, xylitol, and erythritol), cellulose, and cellulosic derivatives (e.g., microcrystalline cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, and hydroxyethyl cellulose); wet binders, such as polyvinyl pyrrolidone, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, xanthan gum, carrageenan gum, locust bean gum, alginates, and acacia; disintegrants, such as sodium starch glycolate, croscarmellose, croscarmellose, microcrystalline cellulose, starch, and the like, lubricants, such as magnesium stearate, stearic acid and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, talc, vegetable oils, and waxes; glidants, such as colloidal silicon dioxide; sweeteners, including aspartame, acesulfame potassium, sucralose and saccharin; flavors, acidulants, antioxidants, preservatives, surfactants, wetting agents, and coloring agents, and mixtures thereof.

[0026] As used herein, the term "adsorbant" means a solid material or combination of solid materials that is capable of adsorbing and carrying an oily or fluid material, such as simethicone, while retaining sufficient flowability to assure content uniformity and sufficient compactability to be processed into tablets using direct compression methods.

[0027] As used in the present invention, silicified microcrystalline cellulose may be the PROSOLV brand (PenWest Pharmaceuticals, Patterson, NY).

[0028] As used herein magnesium aluminometasilicate may be the NEUSILIN brand, e.g., S1, FH2, US2, and UFL2 (Fuji Chemical Industries (USA) Inc., Robbinsville, NJ).

[0029] In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, simethicone is admixed with the magnesium aluminometasilicate to form a uniform free flowing granular admixture. The silicified microcrystalline cellulose is then added, as well as any optional additional active agent, and any additional excipients. The composition is then mixed until uniform. The resulting granular composition is then compressed.

[0030] In embodiments wherein one or more additional active agents are included, the additional active agent may optionally be admixed with the simethicone prior to adsorbing onto the magnesium aluminometasilicate and silicified microcrystalline cellulose. The resulting blend is then further blended with any additional active agents and any additional excipients, and compressed into tablets.

[0031] Generally, it is desired that the composition contains a proportionate amount of simethicone, magnesium aluminometasilicate, and silicified microcrystalline cellulose, which is consistent with forming a free-flowing granular composition. For example, the proportionate amounts, by weight, of the ingredients of the granular admixture composition is about 1: about 0.5 to about 0.85: about 0.9 to about 1.30 per solid dosage unit (simethicone:magnesium aluminometasilicate:silicified microcrystalline cellulose).

[0032] The weight ratio of simethicone to total adsorbant (e.g. magnesium aluminometasilicate and silicified microcrystalline cellulose) is at least about 1:2.22,

for example at least about 1:2.00, or at least about 1:1.80. In one embodiment, the weight ratio of simethicone to total adsorbant is at least about 1 part simethicone to 1.75 parts adsorbant.

[0033] The solid dosage forms of the present invention may be shaped, in other words, formed, by a variety of methods known in the art. Optionally, the dosage form of the present invention, either with or without active agent, can be molded, deposited or compacted under methods commonly known in the art.

[0034] Solid dosage forms of the present invention may be formed by direct compression. Using this technique, the solid dosage forms are produced by directly compacting a blend of the active agent and any other appropriate inactive ingredients, i.e., excipients (e.g. flavoring, binders, lubricants, etc.). Any conventional compacting methods for forming a chewable dosage form may be used to make the soft core of the present invention. These methods include, but are not limited to, dry granulation followed by compression, and wet granulation followed by drying and compression. Compression methods include rotary compression, compacting roller technology, such as a chilsonator or drop roller, or by molding, casting, or extrusion technologies. These methods are well known in the art, and are described in detail in, for example, Lachman, et al., *The Theory and Practice of Industrial Pharmacy*, Chapter 11, (3rd Ed. 1986).

[0035] One such method utilizes placing a pre-determined volume of particles or components into a die cavity of a rotary tablet press, which continuously rotates as part of a die table from the filling position to a compaction position. At the compaction position, the particles are compacted between an upper punch and a lower punch. The die table then rotates to an ejection position, at which the resulting tablet is pushed from the die cavity by the lower punch and guided to an ejection chute by a stationary take-off bar.

[0036] One aspect of the present invention is a compressed solid dosage form, e.g., a tablet or a caplet. The hardness of the solid dosage form is up to about 20 kiloponds per square centimeter (kp/cm²), e.g., about 2 to 15 kp/cm² or about 4 to 10 kp/cm².

As used herein, the term hardness is used to describe the diametral breaking strength

as measured by conventional pharmaceutical hardness testing equipment, such as a Schleuniger Hardness Tester. In order to compare values across different size tablets, the breaking strength is normalized for the area of the break (which may be approximated as tablet diameter times thickness). This normalized value, expressed in kp/cm^2 , is sometimes referred in the art as tablet tensile strength. A general discussion of tablet hardness testing is found in Leiberman et al., *Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms – Tablets*, Volume 2, 2nd ed., Marcel Dekker Inc., 1990, pp. 213 – 217, 327 – 329.

[0037] The solid oral dosage forms of the present invention may be prepared in the form of tablets, caplets, gelcaps, capsules, chewable tablets, lozenges, fast dissolving wafers, and other known and effective solid oral delivery modes.

[0038] A typical solid dosage form of the present invention may contain a formulation containing various components in accordance with the following:

Simethicone	about 1 to about 75 %
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose	about 5 to about 40%
Magnesium aluminometasilicate	about 5 to about 30%
Additional Active agent	about 0 to about 89%
Lubricant	about 0 to about 5%
Filler/dry binder	about 0 to about 35%
Wet Binder	about 0 to about 10%
Flavorants/Colorants/Sweeteners	about 0 to about 5%

All % are w/w%.

[0039] Specific embodiments of the present invention are illustrated by way of the following examples. This invention is not confined to the specific limitations set forth in these examples, but rather to the scope of the appended claims. Unless otherwise stated, the percentages and ratios given below are by weight.

EXAMPLES

Example 1:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone**	135	33.75	337.5
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd.)	77	19.25	192.5
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	150	37.5	375.0
Loperamide, USP	2	0.5	5
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	32	8	80
Stearic acid, NF	4	1	10
TOTAL			1000

[0040] **Note: 10% overage added

[0041] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer, the magnesium aluminometasilicate and one-half of the batch quantity of the silicified microcrystalline cellulose were combined with the simethicone by initially sandwiching the simethicone between the magnesium aluminometasilicate (bottom) and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose (top) and mixed at speed setting "1" for about 5 minutes.

[0042] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the loperamide, sodium starch glycolate and remaining silicified microcrystalline cellulose were added to Hobart mixer and mixed at speed setting "1" for about 5 minutes.

[0043] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added to the Hobart mixer and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

[0044] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 5 kN followed by main compression. The target weight per unit was 400 mg. Each unit was measure for

total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (Kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Weight of 10 Units (g)	Average Thickness (mm)	Average Hardness (kp/cm ²)
5	4.037	5.135	5.75
10	3.990	4.943	6.64
12.5	3.947	4.814	7.5
15	3.906*	4.743	5.88
20	3.912*	4.687	5.95

[0045] * some picking upon compression.

Example 2: Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone	135	33.75	33.75
Magnesium aluminometasilicatealuminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd.)	85	21.25	21.25
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	150	37.5	37.5
Loperamide, USP	2	0.5	0.5
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	26	6.5	6.5
Stearic acid, NF	2	0.5	0.5
TOTAL			100

[0046] In a glass mortar and pestle, the simethicone was levigated into the magnesium aluminometasilicate. The silicified microcrystalline cellulose was added to the dry simethicone/magnesium aluminometasilicate mixture and mixed thoroughly. The loperamide and sodium starch glycolate were added while mixing until uniform. The stearic acid was added and mixing was continued for about five minutes.

[0047] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 5 kN followed by main

compression. Each unit was measured for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Average Weight of Three Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Three Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Three Units (kp/cm ²)
3.5	421	5.602	10.16
5	424	5.29	9.62
7	410	4.601	5.71
10	418.3	5.129	7.68
18	402.7	4.89	5.37

Example 3 Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone	135	31.034	62.1
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	105	24.138	48.3
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	170	39.08	78.2
Loperamide, USP	2	0.4598	0.9
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	20	4.5977	9.2
Stearic acid, NF	3	0.6897	1.4
TOTAL			200

[0048] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer, the magnesium aluminometasilicate and one-half of the batch quantity of the silicified microcrystalline cellulose were combined with the simethicone by initially sandwiching the simethicone between the magnesium aluminometasilicate (bottom) and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose (top) and mixed at speed setting No. 1 for about 5 minutes.

[0049] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, loperamide, sodium starch glycolate and remaining silicified microcrystalline cellulose were added to Hobart mixer and mixed at speed setting "1" for about 5 minutes.

[0050] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added to the Hobart mixer and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

[0051] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 3 kN followed by main compression. Each unit was measure for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Average Weight of Five Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Five Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Five Units (kp/cm ²)
1	405	5.994	11.50
3.4	404.4	5.7522	15.24
5.0	371.6	5.129	15.87
6.0	390.2	5.145	17.23
7.5	394	5.164	15.26
10	390.6	4.874	13.13
13	386.4	4.763	10.30
20	397.8	4.795	8.18

[0052] While the target weight per unit was 435 mg, with tooling (604 x 224 x 052 BB caplet), i.e., volume of die at maximum, only about 400 mg weight was possible.

EXAMPLE 4:

[0053] A disintegration test comparing a unit from Example 1, (pre-compression 5 KN and main compression 5 kN) and a unit from Example 3 (pre-compression 3 kN and main compression 5 kN) in water was carried out. The results showed that the Example 1 unit disintegrated in less than about 2 minutes after the unit was placed in water, while the Example 3 unit remained intact and was floating in the water after about 2 and one-half minutes.

Example 5 Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone*	135	33.75	67.5
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd.)	90	22.5	45
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	150	37.5	75
Loperamide, USP	2	0.5	1
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	20	5	10
Stearic acid, NF	3	0.75	10
TOTAL			200

[0054] * Note: 10% overage added

[0055] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone was slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate and mixed with a spatula for about 5 minutes.

[0056] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate was added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.

[0057] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, loperamide, sodium starch glycolate and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose were added. The resulting mixture was mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

[0058] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

[0059] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 3 kN followed by main compression. Target weight was 400 mg per unit. Each unit was measure for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Average Weight of Five Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Five Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Five Units (kp/cm ²)
1	397.4	5.920	6.60
3.0	396.6	5.572	9.66
5.0	396.6	5.263	9.67
6.0	399.6	5.156	9.30
7.0	395.6	5.018	8.37
90	396.2	4.974	8.45
12.5	389.4	4.806	7.24
20.0	372.4	4.655	<4.94

Example 6 Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone	135	33.75	67.5
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	100	25	50
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	140	35	70
Loperamide, USP	2	0.5	1
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	20	5	10
Stearic acid, NF	3	0.75	10
TOTAL			200

- 5 [0060] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone was slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate and mixed with a spatula for about 5 minutes.
- [0061] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate was added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.
- 10 [0062] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, loperamide, sodium starch glycolate and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose

were added. The resulting mixture was mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

[0063] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

[0064] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 3 kN followed by main compression. Target weight was 400 mg per unit. Each unit was measure for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Weight of Five Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Five Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Five Units (kp/cm ²)
1	395.6	5.773	6.94
2.0	398.2	5.672	8.57
3.0	400	5.263	10.23
4.0	395.8	5.296	7.81
5.0	390.8	5.1128	8.48
10	397.6	4.975	<7.26
20	374.8	4.671	7.10

Example 7 Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone	135	33.75	67.5
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	110	27.5	55
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90, from PenWest Co.)	125	31.25	62.5
Loperamide, USP	2	0.5	1
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	25	6.25	12.5
Stearic acid, NF	3	0.75	1.5
TOTAL			200

- [0065] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone was slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate and mixed with a spatula for about 5 minutes.
- [0066] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate was added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.
- [0067] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the loperamine, sodium starch glycolate and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose were added. The resulting mixture was mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.
- [0068] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.
- [0069] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 3 kN followed by main compression. Each unit was measure for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Average Weight of Five Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Five Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Five Units (kp/cm ²)
1	399	5.935	7.47
2	398.8	5.898	7.68
3.0	404.2	5.709	8.74
4.0	408	5.438	9.60
5.0	408.8	5.344	9.46
10.0	408.6	5.090	5.80
15.0	405.8	4.944	<4.45
20.0	400.8	4.8716	<4.04

Example 8 Simethicone (120 mg) Loperamide (2 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)	% (w/w)	Batch Wt (g)
Simethicone**	135	35.065	140.3
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	90	23.377	93.5
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90 from PenWest Co.)	146	37.922	151.7
Loperamide, USP	2	0.520	2.1
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	10	2.597	10.4
Stearic acid, NF	2	0.520	2.1
TOTAL			400

[0070] ** Note: 10% overage added

[0071] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone was slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate and mixed with a spatula for about 5 minutes.

[0072] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate was added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.

[0073] The loperamide was screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the loperamine, sodium starch glycolate, NF and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose were added. The resulting mixture was mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

5 [0074] The stearic acid was screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid was added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

[0075] The powder was then compressed into individual units, e.g., tablets, on a Manesty Beta Press with caplet shape standard concave tooling (diameter = 6.092 mm, length = 19.995 mm) through pre-compression at 3 kN followed by main compression (* these units were not pre-compressed). Target weight was 385 mg per unit. Each unit was measure for total weight, thickness (mm) and hardness (kp) at various compression forces. Such data is presented below.

Main Compression Force (kN)	Average Weight of Five Units (mg)	Average Thickness of Five Units (mm)	Average Hardness of Five Units (kp/cm2)
1	382.8	5.460	9.56
2	383.4	5.395	9.31
3.0	382	5.356	7.60
4.0	379.8	5.123	8.78
5.0	382.8	4.993	<6.58
10.0	383.6	4.841	<4.07
1.5*	384.8	5.439	7.12
3.0*	382.4	5.306	7.61

Example 9 Simethicone (120 mg) / Acetaminophen (250 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)
Simethicone**	135
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	90
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90 from PenWest Co.)	150
Acetaminophen, USP	250
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	20
Stearic acid, NF	5
TOTAL	650

[0076] ** Note: 10% overage added

5 [0077] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone is slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate with mixing using a spatula for about 5 minutes.

[0078] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate is added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.

10 [0079] The acetaminophen is screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the acetaminophen, sodium starch glycolate, NF and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose are added. The resulting mixture is mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

15 [0080] The stearic acid is screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid is added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

Example 10 Simethicone (120 mg) / Ibuprofen (200 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)
Simethicone**	135
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	90
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90 from PenWest Co.)	150
Ibuprofen, USP	200
Sodium starch glycolate, NF	20
Stearic acid, NF	5
TOTAL	600

[0081] ** Note: 10% overage added

5 [0082] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone is slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate with mixing using a spatula for about 5 minutes.

[0083] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate is added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.

10 [0084] The ibuprofen is screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the ibuprofen, sodium starch glycolate, NF and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose are added. The resulting mixture is mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

15 [0085] The stearic acid is screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid is added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.

Example 11 Simethicone (120 mg) / Mesalamine (400 mg) Caplets:

Ingredients	Unit Wt (mg)
Simethicone**	135
Magnesium aluminometasilicate (NEUSILIN, US-2 from Fuji Chemical Ltd)	110
Silicified microcrystalline cellulose (PROSOLV HD-90 from PenWest Co.)	125
Mesalamine (5-aminosalicylic acid, 5-ASA)	2
Stearic acid, NF	10
TOTAL	781

[0086] ** Note: 10% overage added

[0087] In a 4 quart Hobart mixer bowl, simethicone was slowly added to about one-half of the batch quantity of the magnesium aluminometasilicate and mixed with a spatula for about 5 minutes.

[0088] The remaining magnesium aluminometasilicate was added to the mixture and mixing continued until the uniform, scraping the sides of the bowl.

[0089] The mesalamine is screened using a No. 40 mesh screen. After screening, the mesalamine and the silicified microcrystalline cellulose are added. The resulting mixture was mixed at speed setting "1" for about five minutes.

[0090] The stearic acid is screened using a No. 30 mesh screen. After screening, the stearic acid is added and mixed for about five minutes to form a free-flowing compressible powder.